

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168525

FOL RPT USUN 2724 ACTION SECSTATE INFO CAIRO DAMASCUS

TEL AVIV TRIPOLI JUL 1

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2724

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, XF

SUBJ: LEBANESE CRISIS: LETTER TO SECURITY COUNCIL

PRESIDENT FROM LEBANESE AMBASSADOR

1. LETTER DATED JUNE 30 FROM LEBANESE PERMREP TO SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT RASHLEIGH JACKSON, REPRODUCED IN PARA 2, CONVEYS A MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES. LEBANESE MISOFFS COMMENTED TO US THAT BEFORE URGING A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THE LEBANESE SITUATION, THE LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD WANT TO WEIGH THE DELIBERATIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES NOW CONVENED IN CAIRO. ALSO OF FOREMOST IMPORTANCE WOULD BE THE REACTION OF LIBYA TO THESIXTH PARA OF THE COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE. LEBANESE MISOFFS REMARKED THAT THEY DID NOT ANTICIPATE AN EARLY REQUEST FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING.

2. QUOTE

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EXCELLENCY,

UPON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO COMMUNICATE TO YOU THE TEXT OF A CABLE I RECEIVED TODAY,

"WE HAVE INFORMED THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES MEETING TODAY IN CAIRO THE FOLLOWING:

FIRST: WE REJECT THE ALLEGATIONS MADE BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF EGYPT AND OTHERS ACCUSING US OF CARRYING OUT A PLOT TO LIQUIDATE THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT, WHILE, IN FACT, LEBANON HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO A CONSPIRACY BY PALESTINIANS AND OTHERS AS EVIDENCED BY THE TRAGEDY OF BLOODSHED AND DESTRUCTION IT IS SUFFERING.

SECOND: WE ARE CONSTANTLY PREPARED TO ABIDE BY CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENTS. WE REQUEST THAT THE ARAB PEACE-KEEPING FORCE BE EMPOWERED TO ENFORCE THE CEASE-FIRE AND NOT SIMPLY TO OBSERVE IT, BECAUSE THE PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR ALLIES ARE NOT DISCIPLINED AS ATTESTED BY THE BREAKDOWN ALREADY OF FOURTY EIGHT CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENTS.

THIRD: WE ARE CONVICTED THAT THE SYRIAN FORCES ARE BETTER EQUIPPED THAN ANY OTHER ARAB FORCE TO ENFORCE A CESSATION OF THE FIGHTING AND TO REESTABLISH PEACE. SHOULD AN ARAB PEACE-KEEPING FORCE BE NECESSARY, LET IT BE COMPOSED PARTICULARLY OF SYRIANS.

FOURTH: WE PROTEST AGAINST THE CAPACITY THAT THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION HAS ARROGATED TO ITSELF IN DEMANDING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE SYRIAN FORCES FROM LEBANON - A MATTER TO BE DETERMINED ABSOLUTELY WITHIN LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY. THESE FORCES ARE IN LEBANON WITH THE CONSENT OF THE LEGAL LEBANESE AUTHORITIES.

FIFTH: WE PROTEST AGAINST THE OCCUPATION OF THE WESTERN PART OF BEIRUT BY THE FATAH ORGANIZATION, ITS TERRORISATION OF THE INHABITANTS THEREIN AND ITS SEIZURE
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OF PUBLIC SECTORS SUCH AS THE DEPARTMENT OF POST, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE AND BANKS.

SIXTH: WE STRONGLY PROTEST AGAINST THE STATEMENTS MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF LIBYA AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD IN BEIRUT ON JUNE 29, 1976, IN WHICH HE DECLARED HIS GOVERNMENT'S MILITARY AND POLITICAL SUPPORT OF THE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND THE FORCES ALLIED TO IT. THIS DEPRIVES THE

LIBYAN TROOPS, ALREADY IN LEBANON AS PART OF THE ARAB PEACE-KEEPING FORCE, OF THEIR NEUTRALITY WHICH IS THE SINE QUA NON CONDITION FOR SUCH A FORCE.

ACCORDINGLY, WE ASK THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE TO TAKE THE DUE MEASURES RESULTING FROM THIS NEW AND GRAVE FACT, SINCE THERE ARE FIVE HUNDRED LIBYAN SOLDIERS IN LEBANON UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE LEAGUE, WHO WILL CERTAINLY BECOME A FIGHTING PARTY AGAINST THE LEBANESE LEGALITY."

FURTHERMORE, I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED:

- 1) TO COMMUNICATE THE SAME TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL;
- 2) TO STRESS THE CONTENTS OF THE LAST PARAGRAPH IN THE DISPATCH WHICH CONSTITUTE AND OPEN FOREIGN INTERVENTION AS WELL AS A PROVOCATION AND A THREAT TO THE SECURITY AND SAFETY OF LEBANON AND CONSEQUENTLY TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY;
- 3) TO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO RESORT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ACCORDING TO THE CHARTER;
- 4) AND TO REQUEST THE DISTRIBUTION OF THIS LETTER AS A DOCUMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

PLEASE ACCEPT, YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

EDOUARD GHORRA
AMBASSADOR
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
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